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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Research has found that non-violent youth are less likely to become further involved in criminal behavior if they remain in their home communities and if appropriate services are available that address underlying needs such as mental illness, substance abuse, learning disabilities, unstable living arrangements, and dysfunctional parenting; it has also been demonstrated that it is less expensive than a sentence to the Department of Juvenile Justice; and

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WHEREAS, Redeploy Illinois is designed to provide services to youth between the ages of 13 and 18 who are at high risk of being committed to the Department of Juvenile Justice; a fiscal incentive is provided to counties to provide services to youth within their home communities by building a continuum of care for youth who are in the juvenile justice system; counties link youth to a wide array of needed services and supports within the home community, as indicated through an individualized needs assessment; services are provided in the least restrictive manner possible, and can include case management, court advocacy, education assistance, individual/family/group counseling, and crisis intervention; and

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WHEREAS, The average annual cost to serve a youth in the Redeploy program in 2013 was approximately 6% of the annual

1 cost to house a youth in the Department of Juvenile Justice; in
2 2013, the average per capita cost to house a youth at the
3 Department of Juvenile Justice was a reported \$111,000; in
4 2013, 352 youth received full Redeploy Illinois program
5 services with an appropriation of \$2,385,100; this equates to
6 an annual Redeploy program cost per youth of \$6,776; in 2012,
7 238 fewer youth were committed to the Department of Juvenile
8 Justice because of the Redeploy Illinois program, saving
9 Illinois taxpayers nearly \$11.7 million in unnecessary
10 incarceration costs for 2012; the Redeploy Illinois program
11 reduced overall Department of Juvenile Justice commitments in
12 the 4 pilot sites by nearly 50% (599 fewer youth) over the 5
13 years relative to the 3-year baseline average; research found
14 that court evaluation commitments to the Department of Juvenile
15 Justice in these sites were reduced by 87% over the 5 years
16 relative to the 3-year baseline average; in the first 8 years
17 of the program, participating counties sent 1,036 juveniles to
18 the Department of Juvenile Justice; this was a steep decline
19 from the projected 2,268 youth that were likely to have been
20 sent based on the previous 3-year commitment trend; it
21 represents a 54% reduction in Department of Juvenile Justice
22 commitments over the life of the program; through 2012, the
23 Redeploy program diverted 1,232 youth saving the State a
24 conservative \$60,000,000 in unnecessary incarceration costs;
25 each funded Redeploy Illinois program site is required by
26 statute and contract to reduce its commitments to the

1 Department of Juvenile Justice by a minimum of 25% compared to
2 their baseline; in 2012, compared to the 3-year baseline, the 8
3 Redeploy Illinois program sites in operation combined to reduce
4 eligible Department of Juvenile Justice commitments in their
5 counties by 64%; and

6 WHEREAS, Based on its success, the Redeploy Illinois
7 program was expanded from 4 sites to 8 in January 2009; serving
8 nearly 25% of all Illinois counties, the Redeploy sites
9 continued to effectively reduce the incarceration of hundreds
10 of youth while also holding the line on the use of local
11 detention; many counties in Illinois lack the resources to
12 effectively serve delinquent youth locally; a lack of local
13 programs and services plays a significant role in the court's
14 decision to commit a youth to a correctional facility; and

15 WHEREAS, The funds provided to the Redeploy sites fills the
16 gaps in their continuum of services, allowing them to
17 cost-effectively serve youth in their home communities and
18 reduce the system's reliance on corrections; this progressive
19 effort to build on the work done in other states such as Ohio
20 and Pennsylvania, which successfully reduced juvenile
21 incarceration rates through similarly structured programs, is
22 paying off; 2010 cost benefit analysis indicated that on
23 average, the 8 Redeploy sites reduced their commitments in 2010
24 by 53% from their baselines; according to the per capita cost

1 of incarcerating one juvenile in Department of Juvenile
2 Justice, this decrease in commitments translates to a
3 \$9,038,927 cost avoidance for the State; youth are being
4 successfully treated in their own communities and kept from the
5 devastation of incarceration, saving the State money, reducing
6 the number of crime victims, and creating safer communities
7 across Illinois; and

8 WHEREAS, P.A. 98-0060 provides that in a county with a
9 population exceeding 2,000,000, the Redeploy Illinois
10 Oversight Board may authorize the Department of Human Services
11 to enter into an agreement with that county to reduce the
12 number of commitments of juvenile offenders, except that the
13 agreement may encompass a clearly identifiable geographical
14 subdivision of that county; the geographical subdivision may
15 include, but is not limited to, a police district or group of
16 police districts, a geographical area making up a court
17 calendar or group of court calendars, a municipal district or
18 group of municipal districts, or a municipality or group of
19 municipalities; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
21 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
22 urge the Department of Human Services and Cook County to enter
23 into all Redeploy Illinois agreements allowable under P.A.
24 98-0060; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
2 presented to the Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board, the Cook
3 County Board President, the Director of the Illinois Department
4 of Human Services, and the General Assembly.